Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting
Date: September 4, 2003 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.
Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Conference Room

I. Approval of August Meeting Minutes

II. Geographic Framework Program

A. Version 3 Update

Rob Surber, Center for Geographic Information (CGI), reported that CGI intends to release Version 3b product by tomorrow. Version 3b incorporates census 2000 polygons down to block groups, legislative district boundaries, continue to refine the feature classification codes and have done additional work for road names. It will be in the metadata. It will be available on data library.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, asked if any arcs were split or added will the linear reference system be intact.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that the way versioning works is that major annual releases will have consistent linear referencing system throughout the product. If it is Version 3c, it is still the same linear referencing system with additional attribution. Any work with transportation data will be fine within the same version number.

B. Next Steps

- Act 51 Mapping

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI has incorporated all the county change reports for the current Act 51 cycle that have been received. They will be made available in the next Act 51 process. CGI is currently working on 531 cities and villages in the state. Most of the cities have less than 5 changes to their street network, road network, and mileage.

- Crash Data Migration

Rob Surber, CGI, explained that one of the key components of Crash Data is located using the framework product for the counties in the state. Are now able to migrate 10 years of crash data in 1 minute per year of migration. It brings it all to Version 3 of framework. Can look at an intersection for 10 years worth of data. The Crash Process is being redesigned and will give it to EDS (vendor) and Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) representatives on the crash redesign process and the data will be made available through MDOT's business partners. That data is not CGI business data. The respective owners will distribute to their business partners. It will be available within a month.

C. Digital Ortho Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that a contract that is in place to complete the state is a Michigan Department of Natural Resources sponsored contract. This is to finish to have complete 1998 ortho coverage for the state. There are holes in the 1992 coverage. It will be done early next year. It will be made available on the Geographic Data Library.

D. Framework Network Pilot Partnership Update

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that local units of government are voluntarily coming to CGI saying they would like to partner with CGI to maintain certain parts of the information on framework. There are a number of initiatives that fall within that area.

- Qualified Voter File (QVF) Street Index to the Map Project

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that the QVF submitted a final proposal to the Department of State (DOS) for a multi-year multi-million dollar project to integrate the Street Index process to the

geographic information system (GIS) statewide. All address updates will be coming through that process to update on the framework through the clerks QVF procedure.

Rayan Ray, CGI, added that CGI did pilots with a few local jurisdictions for this process and got local opinion on what they would need. Now the QVF is available only to the clerk community unless, someone else requests it. CGI is looking at creating a new website with a data steward in the local community who will be a source of official information and will be the submitter of information to the State. An example of the data steward would be a GIS official and they would work with the road commission, the clerk's office, the school districts, the United State Postal Service (USPS) to coordinate information to avoid duplication. They will be able to communicate and submit changes on this web site. The official data that is submitted to the State can only come through the data steward. This will update the framework and then migrate out to the different projects (QVF, Act 51) that the State is doing. The web site will allow them to run scenarios for school precincts. Clerks or school precincts want to rerun their boundaries. The scenario tool will allow them to get a total count of registered voters in block groups. They will be able to draw scenarios quicker than by hand and submitting directly to the State for a quicker update process. The web application will allow a lot of communication and will look into communicating with USPS. CGI is lacking zip codes and accurate zip code boundaries. CGI has USGS proposal due to them the of end September for a new initiative to tackle updates going to the post office and make sure everything is updated in the ZIP+4 product in a timely manner. When CGI updates a local community for transferring QVF to the framework with official street names, CGI will provide to the USPS office and they will update the ZIP+4 files. CGI is also looking at redoing the way information gets submitted in different forms. Plan to have a proposal to them by the end of September, then will present to the Memphis district office and all other districts in the state and it will become an initiative for the state.

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), asked if when an address is submitted if there is a way to recognize whether this is a recognized mailing address.

Rayan Ray, CGI, responded that will get down to the details the CGI is trying to figure out.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that DOS is looking at standards within their system to separate mailing addressing in the driver license process from a site address. For voter application, not suppose to use PO Box for a mailing address, but individual clerks at a branch office may use it to get person through system quickly. DOS is looking at redesigning the system to force types of information – if can't get it then there are system option to pull down and find a physical location. People have PO Boxes everywhere but that is not good enough for voter registration.

Mike Hass, MDCH, stated that in his county, people tend to give no address or an address they prefer. The post office maintains the range of viable addresses. If it were part of the forced process they could recognize the street names.

Rayan Ray, CGI, added that the DOS looking at QVF in branch offices for driver license lookup for addresses. They would be pull from framework because framework will go to QVF.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that this is a software system solution. The other important point to this scenario building with clerks is that there is a new bill kicking around to combine school elections into general elections. There will be an option for schools to have a special election. That is adding to complexity of the clerks' job. School precincts are very convoluted and there are a lot of issues related to long lines at polling locations. They try to organize precincts to get people quickly through the lines. The scenario building is designed to look at return on investment. There is a ballot printing cost associated that can be significant. It can become a geographic solution. If the lines drawn one way it cost a certain amount of money – if you draw it another way it costs that much less. Some clerks have done that using their local GIS office and seen great savings in running their elections. CGI is compiling a business case to

take on the road and this is return on investment for clerks and why they would want to participate with the GIS office or local mapping agency in this manner.

Rayan Ray, CGI, added that CGI plans to have a proposal to give to communities in October to say this is the process CGI is proceeding with to go forward to transferring QVF to framework.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, stated that this proposal sounds like the legislation that the Secretary of State proposed years ago for central addressing authority without the legislation.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that the outcome could be similar. It is designed that if community does not want to participant they don't have to, the State will do it – we are doing it now. One of the goals is to elevate the role of GIS in a local community. It is similar to way the Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information Systems (CLEMIS) project has elevated the role of GIS into supplying street referencing information to that 9-1-1 process. Some communities do 9-1-1 without any mapping at all. You can do it without but can be much further along if you incorporate your mapping standards.

Rayan Ray, CGI, added that clerks are saving 1 ½ month worth of work a year. If they redraw precincts now it takes it takes 3-4 weeks to pull together everything they need to submit for precinct changes. If they are using a GIS system it is taking less than day. There is a huge benefit in the clerk community to go to GIS.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that they get nice maps out of it. They have to provide this service to citizens of where their precincts are. Then it is standardized and available.

Charlie Hickman, United States Geological Survey (USGS), asked if zip code boundaries and polygons official at some level of government. He heard that zip codes are part of the network that the mail carriers walk. It is hard to do polygons or boundaries from those.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that the USPS admitted that they have problems. In certain areas of the state the USPS is trying to improve that. There are discussions with congress about eliminating a lot of one-room post offices because they are not making money. In the past they were rewarded by the number of people they delivered mail to. There was an incentive to get more people and the convoluted boundaries reflected this mad dash for customers. That is going away and they are trying to be more efficient and looking at more standardized boundaries between areas and eliminating small non-delivery areas. There are challenges and this is not an overnight process. They understand the need to be more efficient and are getting pressure from Memphis.

Rayan Ray, CGI, stated that the post office utilizes a GIS system to map zip codes. Certain district keep it up-to-date and others don't. CGI is working with them to utilize their software.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, added that the postal service is one of the sponsors of the URISA Address Savvy meetings.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI has attended several of those but there is a freeze on out-of-state travel.

E. Rail Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI is done repositioning the rail network to 1:12,000 at least. If there were better ortho they were used. CGI has also finalized ownership and active/inactive status on the rail. There are minor adjustments to be made on active/inactive break points. Also have now begun working with rail to trails to map right-of-ways are or are going to be. This will be more of an attribution issue on some of the historical trail right-of-ways and different classification of types of trails throughout the state. It will be topologically integrated with the framework product. Some of the Next Steps will be integrating some of the D Road System, which is the rail-crossing database that MDOT does inspections on. This collects a lot of information – number of trains going through an area, the angle at which the track crosses the road, the type of signaling system, etc. That will be tied to unique identifier that CGI will

integrate into framework and maintain. This will be in Version 4. CGI has information for the yards. CGI had summit of rail associations and companies and they are interested and to the extent of good information this will be made available. CGI will map trail centerline not right-of-way.

F. Federal Aid Urban Boundaries (FAUB) Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported SEMCOG submitted information to MDOT and it has been approved. There are some other areas of the state that are still under review to be finished in October. That information will be made available as a GIS layer once it is finalized that is instinct Version 3. It will not be fully incorporated until Version 4. Once it is a layer CGI will make it available it will be on the Geographic Data Library. Thinks will be Version 3C that has FUAB, but need to check with Everett Root, CGI.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, commented that MDOT has a need to get the functional class into Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) by June submittal.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI will work with SEMCOG to be sure they get what they need.

G. Land Use Leadership Council Report

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that the website is www.michiganlanduse.org. The final report is there and the white papers. The voting members of the council are all from the chamber of commerce, a couple of legislators from Ann Arbor, Saugatuck, and Representative Ruth Johnson from Oakland County plus other business and environmental group representatives. There is a Who's Who on the website. The overall vision is changing the process of growth in the state and looking at how to grow in new way. The vision looks at three fundamental goals of economic prosperity, environmental integrity, and social equity. They seem to go in different directions at times, but they set aside their hard line stances and attempted to come up with something that everyone can live with. The final documentation does have any objections for those who totally disagreed with the results. Everything was voted on and agreed to by the majority of the council. There are some technical GIS implications in there at the local level and the state level. For the state it talks about land resource based industry, information and education. Information is a valuable tool for planning as well as understanding changes. The state should complete it Features Inventory update of 1978 Michigan Resource Information System (MIRIS) current use inventory; integrate the new information with CGI's geographic framework program; state should develop a statewide historical resource GIS consistent - including in CGI's framework; a five-year annual report using GIS to look at farmland and active production types of farms; amount of forest lands in active production; change in land cover by county; number of Michigan citizens housed each year; number of new constructions; etc. There are a number of items that require information through GIS driven processes. Under the Planning and Development Section they talk about every five years using general forecasting and analysis of the land use planning process, continually update every five years the land use/cover on a statewide basis; create a reliable funding method to support this tool and the statewide imagery program. This was a by-partisan document. It has to go through legislation. CGI plans to create a uniform digital map integrated with framework, local data, and being able to provide the necessary data layers to do business. GIS is acknowledged as an important tool in this process and that is significant. It does have a lot of political support. They indirectly talk about asset management work and what MDOT's trying to do with the road system, Asset Management Council work that involves both regions and multi-units of government.

H. National Map Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that they are in the process of finalizing the MOU between USGS and CGI for coordination and cooperation. It is real general - if there is something that makes

sense to work on together on a statewide basis, they will. If there is something specific, it will require an attachment to the MOU.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, added that it is considered an umbrella MOU. Some other activities like hydrography can move underneath there and mimic those specifics and will be easier to sell in the future.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that although this does not get them where they want to be, it is a good step in the right direction.

I. National Hydro Dataset (NHD) Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI just submitted a proposal for a Nation Hydro Dataset (NHD) update for FY04. That would be the linear referencing hosting or conflation of the medium resolution that is available to the country to a more accurate centerline product for the state. CGI submitted the proposal to include the southeast Michigan area – primarily the Wayne and Oakland County complete watersheds. Those that are part of the Wayne and Oakland Counties and extending out to complete the watersheds. There are six that CGI is proposing to work on: Clinton, Detroit River Rouge, Flint, Huron, Ottawa Stoney, and Shiawassee watersheds. Both Wayne and Oakland Counties expressed interest to USGS in participating in this with the use of their better local NHD GIS files. CGI is confident that it can be done a lot quicker, because CGI was cleaning up the old Michigan Resource Information System (MIRIS) layers of the hydro to get into shape that's more suitable to receive the NHD attribution. CGI will have to work with the adjacent counties to be sure they are positionally accurate. This would be a Fiscal Year (FY)04 process. CGI will work with the counties, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), other agencies. One of the parts of the process is to have a hydrologist work with CGI to ensure consistency to be able to support the programs necessary. CGI doesn't anticipate it taking the whole FY04 year. Given the CGI staff resources, they anticipate about 1,400 hours to do high resolution NHD conflation.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked if CGI is going to take the county's 1:12,000 NHD conflation and is CGI going to use Oakland's centerline and go from there for conflation.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that was the plan and then substitute this data for the old MIRIS information to become the official framework data. Any of the adjacent counties would move to the better line work at the integration point at the county line.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked if USGS would help them to fill in the gaps on the NHD as a result of the conflation.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that would be the goal.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, commented that the timing will be good because NHD is moving to geodatabase and as part of that it will be the best available. It won't be 1:24,000 level and local level; it will be the local level.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked Charlie Hickman if the USGS has a geodatabase model for the NHD.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, answered that they do. There is stuff on the web.

J. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Remote Sensing Grant

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that NASA had money available for remote sensing application. They are looking at ways to get the remote sensing data to the local level. The Letters of Intent have been submitted to CGI and they have selected one in conjunction with CGI. It is to assess the high-resolution multi-spectral Ikonos data in evaluation of septic system drain fields in the permitting process. It is a research study. It does involve local health departments and local GIS office and MDEQ. Will make available to state that work in the permitting process. Allegan County was chosen because it had the strongest use of the remote sensing products. The grant is for $20,000 for staff time. NASA will provide the imagery. If this goes well, NASA could put more money into the effort to showcase the initiative.

John Esch, MDEQ, asked what happens when hydrology has been updated for a river going into a lake and out the other side. Unclear what happens then.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that Michigan State University (MSU) in Version 1 of framework did cleanup of MIRIS level of hydro. This did not get into Version 2. That information has now been incorporated and CGI has done additional work in Version 3b. They won't have any impact on referencing, but they are layers of information that may be interesting. From the MDEQ standpoint, it should have great benefits. The lakes names were lost and CGI put them back in.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, asked what is the source of the lake names.

Bill Enslin, MSU Remote Sensing, answered that there are several sources: Humphrey's, Genis Names, and all local map sources. There were codes to indicate the source of the name (it may not have been maintained). There were about 5-6,000 lakes that had names. MIRIS minimum resolution was 2½ acres, so there were a lot of small images.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that CGI did cleanup work in prep for the NHD. CGI estimates quite a bit a work to cleanup MIRIS files for NHD work.

Bill Enslin, MSU, added that should link the Humphrey data and other attribute data to that.

III. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MNDR) Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI is working with the MDNR on the forest boundary update that will be submitted to Natural Resources Commission, who is looking at acquiring land and want to get the most recent updates to the GIS layer. MDNR is looking at exchanging land with local landowners. CGI has submitted a proposal to Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) to speed up the Natural Features Inventory research process. Under the plan, permot applications would use a web application that would speed it up from 30 days to minutes.

IV. Michigan Department of Transportation Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported that they are working on the Asset Management data collection. As of Tuesday, they have finished collection of federal aid routes in 14 counties and part of 3 others. Anticipate collection by the end of the year. MDOT inquired and received files from the 3 federal forests in Michigan. The mileage on one file is 100 miles more than was reported in the federal report in Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS). There is an overlap between federal forest roads and certified county roads, which may account for the extra miles. There may be two owners claiming the same road if so, want to clarify who owns the road. For the most part, these may be unnamed roads in the forest, but they are supposed to be traversable by a vehicle.

Corey Johnson, MDOT, reported that MDOT is working with Michigan State Industries (MSI) on the right-of-way project. There is a resolution problem getting the files into Caliper software – with Arc there are no problems.

Charles Bender, MSI, commented that it has to be the translation for the viewer. MSI can pull them up in several different programs and they are crystal clear.

Corey Johnson, MDOT, stated that he has been working with Caliper and it may be the disconnect.

Rob Surber, CGI, asked if the right-of-way maps scanned images will be available on the web?

Joyce Newell, MDOT, responded that the right-of-way people own the maps but they will be available to the rest of MDOT. The regions and Transportation Service Centers (TSC) have a strong interest in this info.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that if a county or local unit of government is interested in this, they should talk to the Real Estate Division.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, commented that MDOT has one pilot county done but there are other ones on the server and on the intranet. A lot are on paper maps that are disintegrating. The goal is to find a way to preserve them until they can be updated.

Charles Bender, MSI, offering for MSI to scan the images and create TIFFs.

Corey Johnson, MDOT, stated that MDOT did review digital files from Gratiot County and they look good. MDOT is dealing with a back log do to framework. Will meet with CGI and take a look at it.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that this is a process to add drain networks for MDOT's assessment process. Local units of governments assess MDOT and CGI would like to make that a mapping GIS process so that MDOT doesn't write a check until they verify the drain information is in GIS form.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked whom MDOT is talking to at local units of government to get the information.

Corey Johnson, MDOT, responded that MDOT receives paper maps related to the assessment information.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked if MDOT is looking for the apportionment area for MDOT and not the network itself.

Corey Johnson, MDOT, answered that they get everything.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that MDOT does care about network, but for the most part it is area calculations related to the road. The product is very poor for most of the counties and MDOT wants to reengineer that process and they are hoping that GIS is a solution for that. Most of the people MDOT works with are drain commissioners.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, stated that the drain commissions have to provide documentation to MDOT before they get paid. It is usually the smaller counties that don't have enough drains to state highways that cannot afford to do it.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, reported that the county is building this information now and it is huge. Scott wanted clarification on the area that MDOT was looking for. The tax is based on area that is contributing.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, commented that the surface of the roadway that is going to the drainage system and the size of the drainage district. If enough information for the rest of the drainage districts in the county, for at least the pilot MDOT may do the whole county. Also reported on the Transportation Asset Mapping System (TRAMS) Project – the TSCs and regional office started effort to get data for planning projects on an easy accessible map base. They wanted GIS for Dummies. They want as much available as possible on the internet. Have been meeting with CGI to see if feasible to take out of MDOT database and make available on internet. Whether available to MDOT and/or public depends on the type of data. Will be doing a pilot area with a few data items to see what it would look like and to see if they can get funding for it.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that one of the important components being tested right now is dynamic segmentation functionality pushed through ArcIMS. CGI is interested in looking at multiple tables, road condition, number of lanes, what section of road has all types of attributes. This is one of the functional requirements of the system. CGI is doing testing with ESRI.

V. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Projects and Activities

John Esch, MDEQ, reported that he is trying to build a users group for common source information data exchange process. They are struggling with the ESRI maintenance and support and needed budget 2 days ago. They are slowly rolling out the Map Image Viewer and people like it. It is fine in Lansing but the problem is getting it on a server. There are a couple of

proposals to get MDEQ-wide intranet mapping application to serve MDEQ and public. They are trying to restore contamination sites and hope to use GIS to do most of that.

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), stated that they are trying to coordinate with CGI the relationship with ESRI regarding the software maintenance.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated the CGI is working on it. There are issues and CGI is trying to work on plan to handle them.

VI. Michigan State Police (MSP) Projects and Activities

Nobody present.

VII. Michigan State Industries (MSI) Projects and Activities

Charles Bender, MSI, reported that they are working with MDOT's right-of-way project. There are issues with trying to get images into Caliper that are viewable. They are trying various export features or identify import features that Caliper may have to get the digital images into it that are readable. The data on quite a few CDs for the 'As Built' project are unreadable or cannot be opened and if they are original CDs, the data is lost.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, explained that some of the documents were in the Lewis Cass building fire and were scorched.

Charles Bender, MSI, stated that they finished the lakes that were funded for Fisheries. MSI did 28 lakes. They are going to let their open purchase order run out because their funding was cut.

Rob Surber, CGI, added the bathometric maps are being geo-referenced to the lake polygons in framework. This will be available in the boating application.

Charles Bender, MSI, continued that they are putting together a Microsoft Access database to include the metadata HTML files being exported for each of the lakes for the each of the layers they are producing. Will also include the original TIFF file, snapped, and georeferenced to TIFF file as well. The database will include area and location marks. Some of the TIFF files that are available have been created with poor resolution and they are almost illegible. MSI is asking for original maps to redigitize. The resolution may have been 25 or 50 and MSI does at least 150 so that the images are a lot clearer. A lot of departments are interested in information and as soon as funding is available, they want to throw 300-500 more lakes at MSI to work on. The lakes are picked by priority of projects that they need the information for. Most lakes so far have been in the Upper Peninsula and a few in Lower Peninsula. MSI was sent 60 lakes and even though they were only able to complete 28 MSI is going to finish the balance of the 60 and as funding becomes available, MSI will ship the product.

VIII. CGI Projects and Activities

A. Map Michigan Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that Map Michigan general internet mapping application is displaying the complete statewide seamless digital orthos available in SDE. It is the National Aerial Photography Program (NAPP) or USGS product. It is not color balanced. In Arc9 (or SDE.9) users will have the capability to update a portion of the file with more recent imagery. In the pyramid building process to replace one image too, have to recreate the whole thing and it took 37 hours. Now will be able to cut a piece of it out and refresh as the 1998s become available. The Map Michigan application returns the images faster than bringing up street map layers. This imagery will be available in customized versions of Map Michigan. There is a History, Arts, and Library application to locate historic places coming online this fall. There is a disease surveillance system for DCH that CGI is working on as a part of bio-terrorism. There

two sides of the project, diseases that have been by doctors and diseases that have symptoms reported by emergency rooms. Both will use internet mapping. CGI is imbedding some geocoding in their applications that uses Map Michigan engines. CGI is developing a series of white papers on how you can work with Map Michigan calling it up in your programs. CGI met with Detroit Edison and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation with their site location process for them to tie into Map Michigan engine and be able to provide mapping services throughout the state. And the MDOT TRAMS (see earlier remarks) will become a flavor the mapping engine. CGI met with MDNR who currently has the Boating Application online. MDNR has additional money to spend on boater education and boating services. MDNR is looking into a Michigan Recreational Boating Information System (MRBIS) II that comes through the ArcIMS application. The plan is to come out with a version May 15, 2004 that has a lot of enhancements. One thing it to tie into the NOAA website for up-to-the-minute weather, some additional information on watercraft controls with geographic polygons for portion of lake that they apply to. There are number of developments enhancements available for next boating season. Framework Version 3 will be on Map Michigan in the near future.

IX. MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services Projects and Activities

Bill Enslin, MSU, reported they delivered the Map Image Viewer to all the Health Departments in the state – at least it is available to them. This was done through the Groundwater Education Michigan (GEM) sites. Also delivered all the extracts for townships and cities in Allegan County. This was a pilot to use high-resolution photographs, parcel information, zoning information, and digital elevation models (DEM) will be integrated with it. Continue to enhance for the MDEQ version. One problem for the Health Departments that it is being delivered by county and want to know if there are contaminate sites across to border, so have added option to display the reference data by clicking on the county folder to bring up the saved themes in the current county. Have also added a bookmark feature and can save instructions on how to recall the map. Also added coordinate conversion for Global Position System (GPS) bringing in lat/long data and converting it to the georef coordinate system and also supports UTM for the state.

X. County / Local Projects and Activities

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, reported that they are working in geodata base migration and ArcIMS services. The big models are administrative areas, parcels with centerlines integrated, water, storm sewer migration, hydrography dataset, and critical structure in support of Homeland Security. There are about 6-8 ArcIMS services offered. They are putting out the metadata search for available datasets and index for ArcIMS services they offer. About to release one in conjunction to the Rails-to-Trails program so all bike paths or other trails will be on there. There are 8-10 county departments developing applications. They are starting an ArcGIS 9 program and evaluation of that. They just renewed professional services and went to bid to establish contracts with providers. They are taking advantage of network connectivity to local units and there are about 4 local units that are connecting directly to the central GIS server through the wide area network and getting access to about 150 data layers and the raster data. They have access to 7 years of flight. They established GPS hardware standards. They are deploying an Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system for their Drain Commission office. This will be a pilot for countywide AVL deployment. There are specific needs in their Equalization Division and the Public Health area. Starting migration to a new computer mass appraisal system by taking it off their 25-year old mainframe system.

Mike Hass, MDCH, reported the County GIS Conference next week at Boyne Resort. Mike is no longer at Branch County but is now at MDCH, Surveillance Section.

XI. Regional Projects and Activities

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported that they are working on the 2000 block attribution. There are 4 out of 7 counties need to be finalized and 3 out of 7 counties are still being worked on – that includes Wayne and Oakland. They have 2 part-time staff and got approval to hire another. Plan to be done in 6 months to 1 year. They are also wrapping up the 2000 Land Use update. There are 3 townships left in Oakland County. The next GIS Regional Coordination Committee meets November 25. The major discussion will be migration to the geodatabase using ArcSDE. A subset of the GIS Standards Committee has meeting and is continuing to meet t discuss critical infrastructure data and standardizing layers for the 7 counties.

Steve Perry, SEMCOG, added that the counties are driving those standards. The goal is create a regional critical data infrastructure to share data across boundaries. There are a lot of hazards. It is hard to globalize and share data. Have to set up process where they can get access to that data. It will not be a data warehouse but a library of contact persons and then know who has what.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, added that they started with inventory and pared that down to local implementation and then focused on prioritized data layers.

Steve Perry, SEMCOG, commented that they plan within the next month cut that inventory down and say this is what they will be working on.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated CGI would like a copy of that.

Steve Perry, SEMCOG, said he try to work with the state on what they need.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, reported that the group is also looking at access to the data are what are the issues when mapping and identifying critical infrastructure. Can it be accessed by the general public, and if not, do they have any legal grounds.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that the state has a lot of interest in the private sector data as well.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, stated they will be issuing a position paper as a region to talk about those issues and decide their next course of action.

Steve Perry, MDCH, added that for the private sector when it comes from the local side, he still sits on the Wayne County Emergency Management own it working with DTE is easy to work with. They sit on the EOC team and when there is training going on they are there. How the data is used and protected as well, if open we will not get utilities to participate.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, commented that the group to discuss the regional flight will meet September 16. September 1 was the deadline for the letters of intent and they have received 4 of the 7 counties. The draft request for purchase (RFP) is going through SEMCOG's internal process.

XII. Federal Projects and Activities

Charlie Hickman, USGS, reported that in Ann Arbor the Institute for Fisheries Research is doing work for the Forest Service for the 3 national forest in Michigan. Just got a status report and it looks like there are several sub-basins completed that are in the queue to go into the database. They started on sub-basin in the Upper Peninsula on the Wisconsin border.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that after the first two very large cu's that they did, they were averaging 280 hours per cu which is down from 1000 hours. The tools are stabilizing.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, added that there is a monthly NHD newsletter that Charlie sends out if you want your name added to the mail list, contact him. The back issues online. The discussions are ongoing but that is how it will get to census and be used as the TIGER layer.

The USGS National Map has a viewer and it has a catalog for web services and trying to get the web service from Michigan – it is open GIS compliant.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that they ran into some snags with the ESRI product implementation with the datum conversion. ESRI suspects it is going to be fixed on the next release.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, asked if CGI's site will have links to locals.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that the locals are an important part of this and you would only go to the state if you want the state views, cross county line views, or no other data is available. Hopefully there will be local sites too.

Charlie Hickman, USGS, commented that some local sites are available through the viewer. Hierarchally you could hit the federal site, hit the state, which cascades and hits the local sites. There could be advantages but weaknesses too. USGS received a proposal from Western Michigan University for archiving effort for historical maps and imagery. The proposal went to USGS, the Library of Congress, and the National Archives. It would be a national resource. The USGS has been and interface for National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) for their Homeland Security requirements – imagery and inventory. The imagery and inventory effort is increasing in importance. There are 5 urban areas in Michigan that they would like more inventories for. At the SEMCOG Emergency Response meeting the question came up as to whether the feds want to get data from the state or SEMCOG.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that the state wouldn't want to be a hindrance to that. It is important that there be consistency around the state too.

Gordon Rector, United States Census Bureau, reported that the Census Bureau headquarters received 25 counties from their contractor that have gone through the TIGER repositioning effort. About 12 of them have been looked at and quality checked been Census and have passed. He assumes that Monroe County and a few other Michigan counties are in that group. The Census Bureau is sending 600 counties through this process this coming year. He assumes that several will be from the state of Michigan. Twenty-five out of the 3,000+ counties need to go through this process come back. They have to meet a positional accuracy standard of 7.6 meters or better. That is what they are trying reposition the TIGER files to.

Scott Oppman, Oakland County GIS, asked if the counties who submitted data will be notified if they pass or not.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, responded that they have weekly conference calls with their headquarters and they are working out the materials that go back to the counties. Both the counties that don't pass and the sheet that tell that and the counties that do pass. Thinks that Oakland will go through in 2004.

Charley Hickman, USGS, stated that relationship between the Census Bureau and CGI and the documentation that was written up is a good example that Charley has been sharing it with the transportation people inside USGS and other states.

XIII. Other Issues

John Esch, MDEQ, commented that in the 1980s a group of MDNR or MDEQ people calculated watershed boundaries around every lake in Michigan. The data was digitized and of the data was poor quality. The last he heard was that it was on wheel tapes. John is trying to find out who did it, when it was done, and where the tapes are. If anyone has any information, he would appreciate help.

XIV. Next Meeting Date

October 2, 2003 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48913